raised platforms in the flood affected areas in Assam;

(b) if not, whether Government contemplate to discontinue this scheme in future; and

(c) if so, the areas benefited by the affected people?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) to (c) Raised platforms do provide relief to the society and are proposed to be continued as a flood proofing activity. The benefit derived have not been assessed by the State of Assam.

Corruption in Brahmani Subarnarekha division

1590. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the reports appearing in the Sun Times, Bhubaneswar dated 9th May, 1991 and 12th October, 1991 about alleged corruption in Brahmani Subarnarekha division and Eastern Rivers division of Bhubaneshwar of the Central Water Commission;

(b) whether any enquiry by CBI has been ordered, if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) A Chief Engineer of the Central Water Commission has been asked to investigate and submit report in the matter.

Sardar Sarover Project

1591. KUMARI ALIA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a working group was sent by the World Bank to review the construction work of Sardar Sarovar Project;

(b) whether Government have received the views of the team; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action contemplated by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) No working group was sent by the World Bank to review the construction work of Sardar Sarovar Project. However, an Independent Review Mission was commissioned by the Bank with an objective of getting an assessment of the Implementation of rehabilitation and resettlement of the displaced persons and environmental safeguards under the project.

(b) and (c) The Mission visited India during October/November, 1991 and February, 1992 and held detailed discussions with concerned State and Central Government Officers, Non-Government Organisations, agitationists, environmentalists etc. and visited the relocation villages vis-a-vis some villages coming under submergence, to collect the factual information. The views of the Mission will be known after it submits its report to the Bank.

Yamuna River Water Board

1592. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to establish a Yamuna River Water Board;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) by when the board is likely to be established;

(d) the main objectives and functions of the proposed river board; and

(e) whether the proposed river board would also take up the task of cleaning of Yamuna?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) to (d) In the inter-State meeting on Sharing of Yamuna Waters and other related issues held on 28th

March, 1992, all the basin States inter-alia agreed in principle to set up Yamuna Board for co-ordinated development and management of river Yamuna. Details of the set up of this Board will be discussed in the next meeting.

(e) Cleaning of Yamuna forms a part of the Ganga Action Plan, Phase II handled by the Ministry of Environment and Forest.

Cooperation with Nepal in water resource development

1593. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that recently a number of decisions were taken by Government regarding various aspects of cooperation with the Government of Nepal in water resources development ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the progress made in the matter till date ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It was agreed during December, 1991 that project parameters for karnali multi-purpose project shall be finalised expeditiously. A detailed project report for Pancheshwar multipurpose project shall be prepared jointly by October, 1992, Joint studies/investigations necessary to finalise the parameters of the Kosi High Dam Project would be carried out expeditiously. Nepal will prepare the feasibility report for Kamla and Bagmati reservoirs scheme by 1993. As a follow up the Joint Committees/ Group of Exports for the projects have met to work out the resuired modalities and future programme of action.

Yamuna River Water Authority

1594. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to set up a Yamuna River Water Authority to resolve the inter-state disputes on sharing of Yamuna waters ;

(b) if so, by when the proposed authority is likely to be constituted and whether the State Governments affected on sharing of Yamuna waters have agreed for such a proposal ;

(c) if so, the details thereof, and

(d) the objectives of the proposed authority and by when the disputes on sharing of Yamuna waters are likely to be settled ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) : (a) No, Sir. Efforts are in hand for settling the issues through negotiations.

(b) to (d) In the inter-state meeting on sharing of Yamuna Waters and other related issues held on 28-3-92 all the Basin States inter-alia agreed to set up a Yamuna River Board for the co-ordinated development and management of river Yamuna. Details of the set up of this Board will be discussed in the next meeting. The proposed Yamuna River Board is not for resolution of disputes on sharing of Yamuna Waters, but is envisaged primarily for the co-ordinated implementation of the works covered by the different inter-State agreements and for the day to day management of the river flows and the abstructions from the river according to the provisions of the agreements.

Construction of irrigation projects

1595. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether nearly two hundred irrigation projects are presently under construction in the country including four non-planned projects of the Cauvery Basin which have spilled over from the Seventh Plan ;

(b) if so, what was the spill-over cost of the projects of seventh Plan ;

(c) whether Government have arrived at any target to complete all the projects which are running behind scheduled during the Eigth Plan period ; and

(d) if so, the estimated expenditure to be incurred thereon ?